

#### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings and versions of claims in the application.

##### Listing of Claims:

Claims 1–31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) A method selected from the group consisting of enhancing calcium absorption, improving bone health, improving strength, improving physical activity performance, and combinations thereof, the method comprising administering to a companion animal a companion animal composition comprising from about 0.01% to about 0.2% fructooligosaccharide, by weight of the composition wherein the fructooligosaccharide is a short chain oligofructose comprising from about 30% to about 40% 1-kestose, from about 50% to about 60% nystose, and from about 5% to about 15% 1F-beta-fructofuranosylnystose, by weight of the short chain oligofructose;  
wherein the companion animal is selected from the group consisting of dogs, cats, and combinations thereof;  
wherein the companion animal composition is a nutritionally balanced kibble comprising from about 20% to about 35% crude protein, from about 10% to about 35% fat, and at least 35% carbohydrate; and  
wherein the animal composition comprises a fiber source additional to the fructooligosaccharide, wherein the fiber source comprises beet pulp;  
wherein the animal composition comprises calcium at less than about 1% by weight of the composition.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 32 which is selected from the group consisting of enhancing calcium absorption, improving bone health, and combinations thereof.

Claims 35–41. (Cancelled)

42. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 34 wherein the companion animal composition is administered at least once daily.

Claims 43–46. (Cancelled)

47. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 32 which is a method selected from the group consisting of improving strength, improving physical performance, and combinations thereof.

Claims 48–54. (Cancelled)

55. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 47 wherein the companion animal composition is administered at least once daily.

Claims 56–63. (Cancelled)